

such delicacy; they attacked several points on Lake Kion and Tanganyika; they were everywhere repulsed. Now, with the British troops, the strong Belgian colonial army is invading German East Africa. Our hope is that soon, in Africa as well as in Europe, our enemies will learn that might as well as right is on the side of the Allies.

No people is perfect; each of the belligerent nations has many sins to confess and much reason to turn repentant towards God. But I cannot see why the Belgian women and children should have to suffer now because in Africa poor natives have been shamefully ill-treated by men who had no principle and no nationality, but the international lawlessness of greed and lust. Money has no color for such people, capital has no fatherland.—Toronto Presbyterian.

WHAT MISSIONARIES HAVE DONE FOR CHINA.

By His Excellency Dr. V. K. Wellington Koo, Washington, D. C., Chinese Minister to America.

The Missionary Review of the World says: "At our request, Minister Koo has sent us the following statement through his secretary, Dr. W. P. Wel. It will be read with interest, not only as revealing the friendly attitude of a high Chinese official, but as an evidence of how Christians in America may further help the great Chinese people solve the problems that confront them.—Editor."

In the first place, China owes a great deal to the foreign missionaries for the introduction of modern education. Not only through their translation of books of modern science, but also through their personal efforts in teaching modern science and arts and in establishing modern schools and colleges, missionaries, particularly those from this country, have awakened an interest on the part of the Chinese masses in the importance and value of modern education. The present wide-spread educational movement in China is traceable in its origin to a very large extent to the humble efforts begun half a century ago by pioneer missionaries of the Christian Church in China. The efficiency of missionary institutions in training men of discipline and character is a

fact generally admitted. Indeed, many of the missionary schools and colleges are recognized as among the best of our educational institutions.

In the second place, the missionary, as a doctor, has rendered no less service to China than as an educator. The missionary hospitals and dispensaries, numbering, I am informed, nearly four hundred, are not only places of comfort to the sick and suffering, but also serve as centers from which the light of modern medical science radiates to the length and breadth of China.

Then the missionary as a moral and religious teacher and as a social reformer has been a distinct force in China. Perhaps no one can tell how many miserable lives have been made happy and how many living in darkness have been brought to see the light by missionary teaching. Many of the epoch-making reforms, such as the suppression of opium and abolition of foot-binding, etc., have been brought about with no little support from the workers of the Christian Church in China.

I hold missionary work in high regard, as do many of my fellow-countrymen. The Christian Church has not only rendered valuable service in propagating Christian doctrines, but has by her various activities contributed to the modernization of China, and under the new regime of republicanism Christianity is bound to make even more rapid progress and accomplish much more in China than she has in the past.

THE HEART OF THE BELGIAN SOLDIER.

When Ralph C. Norton and his wife, Edith Fox Norton, arrived in London the latter part of June, 1915, to begin the "British and French Soldiers' Evangelistic Campaign," as representatives of The Sunday-School Times, they faced a great crisis. Mr. Norton found himself plunged into the greatest spiritual struggle of his life. The young Americans were not new in the work of soul-winning among the soldiers. For ten years Mr. Norton had been with Dr. Chapman in evangelistic work, having direction of the personal work in connection with the campaigns. The outbreak of the war in August, 1914, brought to an end the evangelistic work in Great Britain that the Chapman-Alexander party was then carrying on. But this only turned the soul-winning into another channel, and during the months of October, November and December of 1914 Mr. and Mrs. Norton gave themselves to evangelistic work among the soldiers in Great Britain and France, principally in the training camps for recruits in England. In these meetings more than a thousand men took a straight-out stand for Christ. It was then that God laid upon the Nortons the burden for the soldiers, and after a number of months with Chapman and Alexander in America, they boldly stepped out by faith into this new work.

When they returned to England the natural hope was that these great gatherings of men in the training camps would be open to them for preaching the Gospel. This was the news that greeted them upon their arrival: Because of German spy activities, and especially because several German-Americans who had been convicted and shot as spies were found to have American passports, the British War Office had instructed the Y. M. C. A. to employ no one but British subjects. Then other doors closed to them, and the eager and zealous soul-winners were all but cast into discouragement. Every day, of course, was bringing wonderful fruitage of soldiers won by personal talks on the street, of wounded men reach-

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THE CHRISTIAN HERALD

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ed in the hospitals, and of soldiers on furlough who received Testaments to take back to the trenches. But they were days of uncertainty as to just where God was leading, whether He would change the military orders and open up the meetings, or lead them into France, where the need and the call seemed so strong. This was in July of 1915.

On the 1st of March, 1916, the two young American evangelists were crossing the English Channel in the company of hundreds of officers, taking a route open only to the military, on a ship guarded before and behind by torpedo destroyers, and overhead by four or five aeroplanes—they two the only civilians on board, and armed with an authorization from the Belgian Minister of State to proceed to the front. On their wonderful journey one impossible thing after another was accomplished by the One who had planned the trip; one impassable door after another was opened, until they found themselves in the royal villa, graciously received by the Queen of the Belgians. She accepted one of the little Testaments and thanked them for their care of the Belgian soldiers. Still more remarkable was that walk of two miles from Rainscapelle to Nieuport in the front line of the Belgian trenches, where the soldiers gazed in wonder at the strange sight of a woman in that part of the war zone where only the Belgian Queen herself had been permitted to go.

What have this young American couple done? Who are they? Every military regulation seemed to have been put aside for them—and that, too, by the high officials in a Catholic country whose leaders are bitter against any interference by Protestant evangelists. These young Americans walking those dangerous miles with the shells whizzing over their heads, giving out Gospels and chocolates to the men in the trenches, are father and mother to the Belgian soldiers. Hundreds of the Belgian soldiers so address them, and these in turn have told thousands of their fellows of these wonderful friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Norton went to England to conduct the "British and French Soldiers' Evangelistic Cam-

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paign." A blessed work is being done for the British and French soldiers, and thousands of these have found Christ though the spoken and written words of these soul-winners. But the great Lord of the harvest had something else for these children of His that was not expressed in the title of their campaign. He led them in wondrous ways straight into the heart of the Belgian soldier. And now they see opening before them not only the opportunity to mother the Belgian soldiers and to win them to Christ while their country is at war, but to start a movement that may be the greatest of all evangelistic forces in Belgium after the war.

It was on a day in August, in those early difficult weeks in England, that Mr. Norton met a tall, handsome young soldier standing before the Belgian headquarters talking with a couple of friends. Mr. Norton handed him a Gospel, and after he had watched the distribution of the Gospels for a short time, he said, rather wistfully: "If you have any of those little books to spare, the men in the trenches where I am returning soon would so appreciate them. They have nothing to read, and these are just what they need." He spoke in excellent English, which he had picked up in the trenches. Mr. Norton later learned that this soldier could speak five languages, besides being the hero of his regiment in many other ways. That soldier was Peter Van Koeckhoven. Had God opened the way for Mr. Nor-

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